

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to symbolically designate, on an emergency basis, the alley located in Square 965 located between 10th Street N.E. and 11th Street, N.E., and Constitution Avenue, N.E., in Ward 6, as Al and Mary Arrighi Way.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this act may be cited as the “Al and Mary Arrighi Way Designation Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. (a) Al Arrighi was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island but spent most of his adult life in the District of Columbia. He taught in District of Columbia Public Schools and also had a 30-year career with the Department of Defense working on education policy for the armed services;

(b) Mr. Arrighi was probably best known for his commitment to his Capitol Hill neighborhood where he was sometimes referred to as the Mayor of the 100 block of 10th Street, N.E. Mr. Arrighi died on December 20, 1998 and the Council subsequently acted to symbolically name the alley in the square where his home stood as “Al Arrighi Way”;

(c) After her husband’s passing, Mary Arrighi carried on her and Al’s leadership in the community. She continued to greet new arrivals on the block and organize neighborhood gatherings;

35 (d) Mary Arrighi was also born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. She and Al met while she
36 was a teenager and they were married in 1966. Before coming to the District, Mary studied
37 nights to complete her Bachelor's degree and then earned her Master's in Public Policy, all while
38 raising two children and working at the University of New Hampshire;

39 (e) Mary Arrighi passed away on September 1, 2017. Shortly thereafter, many of her and
40 Al's neighbors who had been the beneficiaries of her continued leadership in the neighborhood
41 petitioned the Council to add her name to the symbolic designation of the alley named for her
42 late husband;

43 (e) District law prohibits the naming of a public right of way after a person who is alive
44 or who has been deceased for less than two years. Two years have passed since Mrs. Arrighi's
45 death, and the Arrighis' neighbors are eager to honor their combined contributions to the
46 community;

47 (f) On September 17, 2019, the Council will approve, on first reading, the symbolic
48 naming of the alley located in Square 965 located between 10th Street N.E. and 11th Street,
49 N.E., and Constitution Avenue, N.E., in Ward 6, as Al and Mary Arrighi Way, but it will
50 take several months before the permanent naming legislation will become effective.

51 Sec.3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
52 enumerated in Section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Al and
53 Mary Arrighi Way Designation Emergency Act of 2019 be adopted after a single reading.

54 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.